

# EU-US agricultural trade: facts, features and their implications

Tassos Haniotis

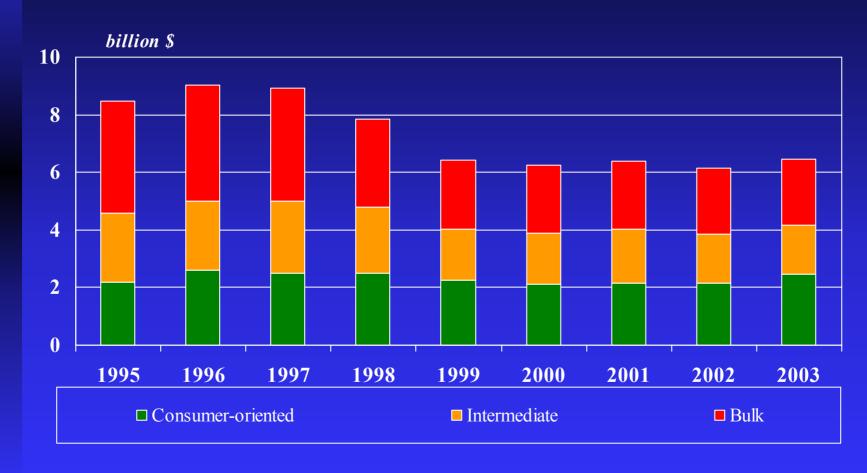
Deputy Head
Cabinet of Franz Fischler, European Commissioner
for Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries



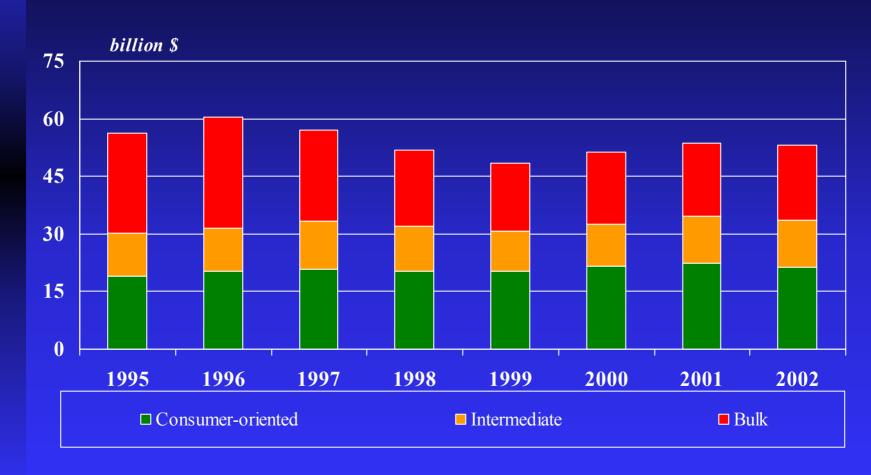
### EU-US agricultural trade aspects

- The (often forgotten) big picture
  - ◆ Trade is a two-way street...
  - ...with many lanes in each direction...
  - ...and different speeds in each lane
- The (generally prevailing) small picture
  - ◆ Trade is about conflicts and competition...
  - ...while the partnership component takes second stage
- The challenge
  - Keep things into perspective

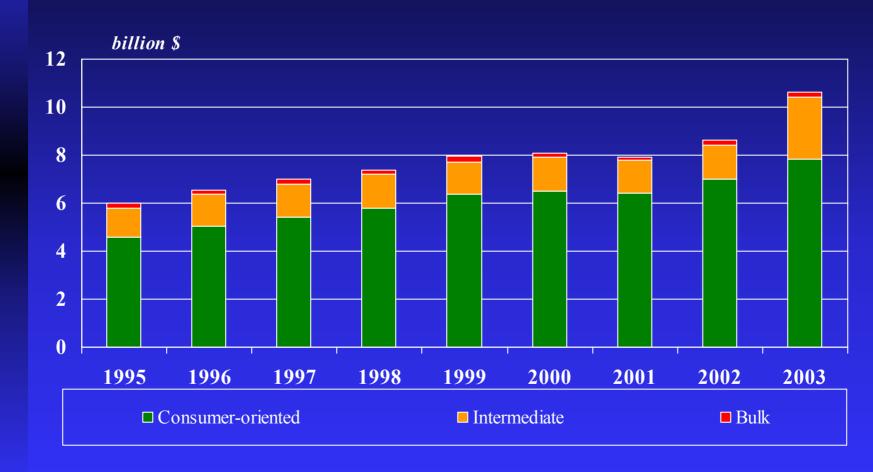
## US agricultural exports to the EU



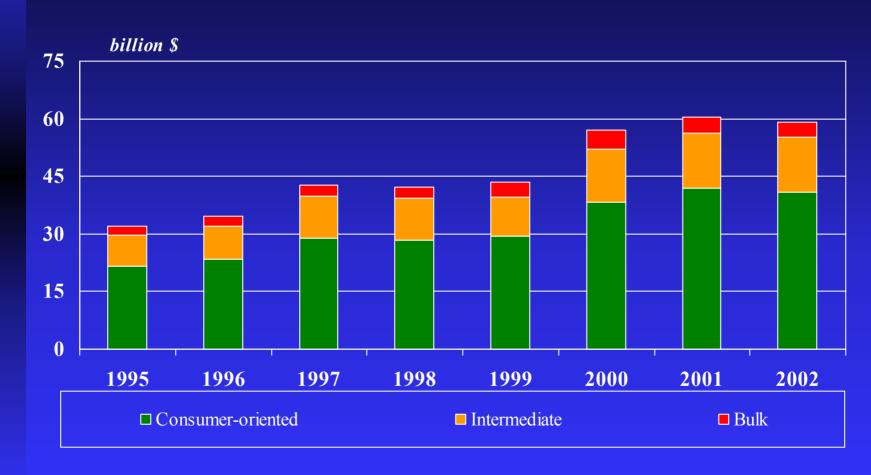
## US agricultural exports to the world



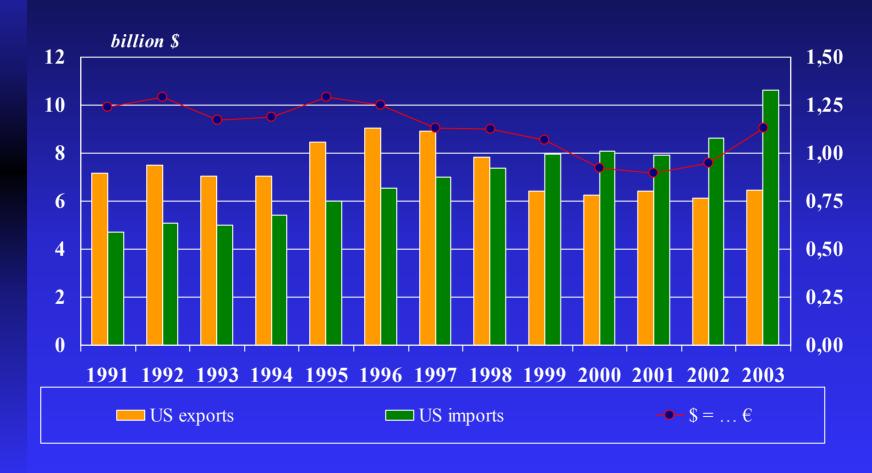
## EU agricultural exports to the US



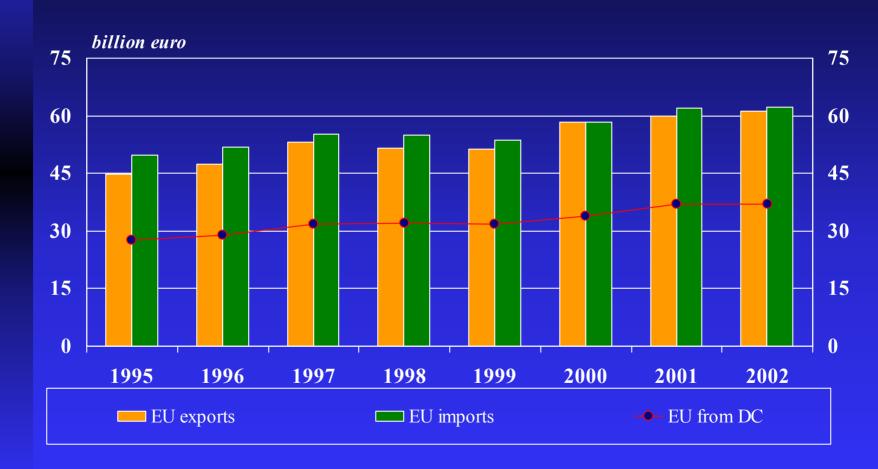
# EU agricultural exports to the world



## US-EU bilateral agricultural trade



### EU global agricultural trade





### EU and US agricultural trade aspects

#### The export side

- ◆ EU mainly exporter of value-added products
- ◆ US exports more balanced, still significant exporter of bulk commodities

#### The import side

- EU largest import market of developing world
- US import origin picture more diversified
- Average tariffs relatively low (not only in the US, look at EU preferences)
- Some sectors with high protection on both sides



## EU and US agricultural trade policies

- The export side: different tools of export support
  - EU export subsidies declining as a result of domestic reform
  - US export support measures shifted to more targeted tools
  - WTO disciplines only for EU measures
- The import side: market access and the DDA
  - Role of least developed DCs crucial for EU
  - ◆ EBA initiative, preference erosion and SDT
  - EU move on "blended formula" and tariff escalation
  - Market access in third markets central for US
  - Bulk commodity dependence intensifies competition



# EU-US agricultural trade frictions

#### Problems on US side

- Mostly outside agricultural sector
- Mainly of traditional trade nature

#### Problems on EU side

- Several within agricultural sector
- Mainly non-traditional trade issues

#### ■ The overriding factor

- US policies still supply-driven
- EU policies increasingly demand-driven